

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                                    |   |                            |
|------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| In re PATENT APPLICATION of:       | ) |                            |
|                                    | ) |                            |
| Seiichiro YAMAMOTO et al.          | ) | Confirmation No.: 1577     |
|                                    | ) |                            |
| Application No.: 10/551,281        | ) | Group Art Unit: 1792       |
|                                    | ) |                            |
| Filed: July 17, 2006               | ) | Examiner: Coleman, Ryan L. |
|                                    | ) |                            |
| FOR: A DISCHARGING MECHANISM AND A | ) |                            |
| DISCHARGING METHOD OF SOLID        | ) |                            |
| MATTER                             | ) |                            |
|                                    | ) |                            |

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed October 2, 2009, Applicants elect the invention of Group I, Claims 1 and 2, directed to a method of discharging solid material stored in a container without traverse.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, or should the Examiner believe a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be contacted at the number indicated below.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required,

including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit

Account 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR  
EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: November 19, 2009  
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